Prospect Park, PA — At a reception Friday evening at the Interboro Kindergarten Academcy, Congressman Joe Sestak congratulated the winners of the 25th annual Congressional High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery."

Each year, Members of the U.S. House of Representatives join together to recognize and encourage the rich artistic talents of young Americans. Members implement the art contest in their Congressional districts – featuring paintings, drawings and prints – and bring the winning entry back to Washington, D.C. for display in a corridor of the U.S. Capitol. Launched in 1982, this nationwide event has produced thousands of local competitions, yielding more than 500,000 high school winners.

"Art has always been a reflection of our culture and our civility," stated Congressman Sestak. "And this nationwide event is a great opportunity for us to reflect on the talented young artists within our own communities. I am extremely impressed with the quality of work displayed at this event."

A panel of qualified professionals judged all of the submitted artwork and selected the entry of Radnor High School student Brook Van Pusch, "Untitled," as "Best in Show." Van Pusch's work will be sent to the Capitol for the opening exhibition on June 14th in Washington, D.C., where the winning artists and their families are invited to see their artwork hung in the Capitol.

In addition to the announcement of "Best in Show," winners were also chosen in the seven art categories, which include: paintings, drawings, collage, prints, mixed media, computer generated art and photography. Samantha Stevenson of Garnet Valley High School was the winner of Mixed Media Category with her piece, "Self Portrait." Penncrest High School student, Marie Jordan, won the Collage category with her work, "Boat of Dreams." Alex DiJulio, also of Garnet Valley High School won the painting category with his piece, "Viv." In the Computer Generated Art category, Ellen Magenheim of Strath Haven High School won for her work, "Untitled." Megan McKee of Garnet Valley High School won the photography piece with her work, "Untitled." Peter Tompkins of Strath Haven High School won the Drawing category with his work, "Untitled." And Penncrest High School student, Lia Mayka, won the Printmaking category for her work, "Front of a House."

Over 100 students, from nine different high schools participated in the competition, including:

Chichester HS
Amelia Bellgren
Amy Fannelli
Brittany Gallagher
Danielle Haynic
Jessica Doberstein
Justin Coale
Kylie Milnes
Laura Dodds
Lori Riley
Nicole Stinson
Sarah Brooks
Valerie Berstecher

Garnet Valley HS
Vinny Christy
Alex DiJulio
Allison Henderson
Brook Abboud
Gionna Borgesi
Jacquelyn Schaab
Jeffrey Mealo
Jordan Rapaport
Joshua Carlevato
Megan McKee
Melissa Schnapnell
Robert George Little III
Samantha Stevenson
Sophie Kish

Ridley HS
Amber Dwyer
Charlotte Hove
Gordon Buchan
Holly Smith
Jordan Gallo
Joseph P. Steinbacher
Kalin Gunter
Marissa Everetts
Michelle Casey

Nicole Morris
Scott Cooper

Haverford HS
Ann Marie Chalmers
Brittany Gallagher
Carolyn Mueller
Elizabeth Brophy
Jessi Falcone
Julia Soltani
Kenneth Mui
Kristy Jost
Matthew Giacomucci
Rosemary Courlson
Sandy Lawler

Radnor HS
Ali Wolfson
Anna O'Neill
Ashley Staehle
Brooke Van Pusch
Grace Lee
Kimberly deLone
Lily Meier
Olivia Klupar
Phillipa Bradberry
Rebecca Sieburth
Rosalind Patterson

Interboro HS
Andrew Reese
Andy Douthwaite
Becky Orr
Casey Johns
Cyle Cavanagh
Daniel Decker
Debbie Malar
Heather Walker
Jennifer Robey
Jerry Moyer

Jerry Richards
Joseph Geiger
Josh Bucolo
Kristine Sim
Laura Faith
Lauren Overstreet
Maggie Cepis
Mari Kitagawa
Mike Conner
Monica Giacomucci
Robert White
Sean Glaze
Shawn Smith
Shawn Thomas
Tara Larkin

Strath Haven HS
Alexis Perrine
Amy Jewett
Claire Fishkow
Hilary Rosenthal
Julia Sippel
Kevin Jacobsen
Kim Firn
Kitty Cairns
Lauren Taylor
Peter Tompkins
Rebecca Kirby

Penncrest HS
Amy Mills
Calla Butler
Christine Zoolalian
Dominic Caton
Erica Sovidge
Hannah Ballantine
Jackie Alyanakian
John Cardone
Lia Mayka
Marie (Catie) Jordan
Megan La Mon
Tori Feigenbaum

Upper Darby HS
Caitlin Sieri
Celia Helfrich
Danielle Kulp
Despina Klassis
Ismail Kolingba
Jacqueline Davis
Jason Bear
John Williams
Jon Douglas
Kevin Dougherty
Lena Park-Aviles
Mark Longo
Michael Pipitone

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever to serve in the U.S. Congress.

###